

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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ADDRESS COMMUNICATIONS RELATING TO NEWS AND EDITORIAL MATTER TO OMAHA BEE, EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

SEPTEMBER CIRCULATION. 56,519

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss. Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the average daily circulation for the month of September, 1914, was 56,519.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested.

Hear the rooster crow!

Another landslide—but it's in Panama.

A lot of candidates are now sadder but wiser.

How fared the "unafraid" candidates over the country?

The weather man ought to have his pick of appointive jobs.

Evidently the Turk is in no hurry to anticipate Thanksgiving.

President Wilson is a candidate for re-election in 1916. Oh, what a surprise!

If there's anything the visiting teachers want that they do not see, all they need to do is to ask for it.

Maybe that second thought of the Turk's was a sober reflection of the last Balkan uprising.

After all, there is the sphere of the home left for the influence of all parents, men as well as women.

The "Sick man of Europe" seems to have had a few lucid moments since he fired on those Russian gunboats.

Now, how many disappointed candidates lay their defeat to old General Apathy, instead of the voter's deliberate choice?

The sainted "Boss" Flinn of Pennsylvania cannot understand why the people who believe in genuine reform mistrust him.

When the long ballot becomes full grown, the election boards will have to supply each voter with a guide to show him through it.

A good deal of fun is made of the Carnegie hero medals, but there is this virtue in them, they are awarded for the saving, not the taking of human life.

You may bet your bottom dollar those innocent victims of war in Europe will not stop to ask whether the Rockefeller millions are tainted money.

The European conflict may rage for a while yet, but negotiations for ending the American base ball war are now on. Hurrah for the land of the free and the home of the Braves.

The news of a Misourian weighing 287 pounds being married to a Kansas woman tipping the beam at 371, among other things, casts suspicion on the old theory that "Nobody loves a fat man."

"Where should American aid go?" asks a correspondent to a New York paper, referring to the money and provisions sent for relief in Europe. The answer is, Where it is most needed. True philanthropy plays no race favorites.

The Brooklyn Eagle celebrated its seventy-third anniversary a few days ago. It is a grand Old Eagle, too, with its wide wings outstretched in defense of good causes and sound doctrine. It is among those sturdy American newspapers that have never been moved from the old bowers by the jaybirds of sensational journalism.

Weather Man Alexander Pollock has compiled his figures for October. The highest temperature was 32 and the lowest 28, and there were frosts on three different days, the 25, 28 and 31st.

A series of Baptist state anniversaries was begun with a meeting of a ministerial conference. The officers are: President, Rev. R. B. Bedell; vice president, Rev. O. A. Holmes; secretary, Rev. J. W. Webb.

The horse cars on St. Mary's avenue line now run every ten minutes.

Business at the clearing house today amounted to \$23,367.

Mr. and Mrs. James F. Cameron thank their friends who contributed aid and sympathy in their bereavement by the death of a daughter.

Miss Nina, tenth and Hickory, is ready to teach pupils in shorthand by the Pitman system.

A first-class cook and laundress can secure employment at the residence of B. B. Wood, 213 North Twenty-second street.

Kansas City's New Union Station. Representatives of Omaha's commercial bodies are recipients of invitations to the formal opening exercises of Kansas City's new union passenger station, which, according to all descriptions, will rank among the largest and finest in this country. The project, involving the expenditure of over \$46,000,000, not only provides ample accommodations for all the railroads entering the city, but includes the construction of a belt line, separation of all grades with streets within the limits of improvements on existing lines, the building of two new freight yards, four local freight houses, and one new team track yard. Work on this great enterprise has been prosecuted actively for the last four years, and is now practically all completed with the exception of a few minor features.

While Kansas City is to be congratulated on what marks a great forward step in its transportation facilities and commercial prestige, it furnishes a reminder to Omaha that a modern union passenger station must be on the program of the near future for our city. While the present moment, it is true, may not be auspicious for initiating such a pretentious project, plans must be laid well ahead, and no good reason exists why the preliminary steps should be deferred for any great length of time. Conceding that our present passenger stations were creditable, and even anticipatory, when erected, they are now being fast outgrown and are already inadequate by comparison. The movement for a greater and more attractive Omaha must include a new union passenger station among its foundation stones.

Another Short Ballot Argument.

Another short ballot argument, although perhaps not so vital to the principle of efficient popular government, will be found in the needless increase of the work of counting and canvassing, with consequent delays in making public the election returns. The burden on the voter here in Omaha to mark five separate and distinct ballots, one of them eight and a half feet long, is as nothing to the burden on the election boards to count and tabulate the marks on these ballots. The number of items on which returns are called for—candidates for the different offices and affirmatives and negatives on initiative and referendum measures—totals 251, with possible additions for names written in on the blank spaces. Since we have 120 voting districts in this county, the aggregate entries that must be canvassed and footed will come close to the appalling number of 30,000. We believe few people realize what a task this entails just for one county, although the largest in the state, and there are ninety odd counties in Nebraska, with approximately 1,700 voting districts. So we say that from the mere standpoint of election mechanics, a shorter ballot is more than ever an imperative necessity.

The Question of Personal Responsibility.

The indictment of twenty-one directors and former directors of the New Haven railroad on the charge of maintaining a monopoly in restraint of trade, brings to a crucial test the personal application of the criminal clause of the Sherman law. With an uncompromising prosecution the country ought to know by the finish of these trials to what extent the power of this provision may reach the individual through the corporation. There is little doubt in the popular mind as to the need of personal responsibility or the soundness of the principle that the individual must be held accountable for the acts of a corporation of which he is a part. Nor have we had to wait on the New Haven case for a demonstration of the principle, but not as yet have we had so notable and impressive a test as this will furnish chiefly because of the number and prominence of the men indicted. But the people of this country, even under such provocative circumstances, do not demand punishment so much as justice. If, therefore, the result of the celebrated New Haven case intrenches the principle of personal responsibility and finally defines the limits of the criminal clause of this law, the people, regardless of personal fates or misfortunes, will be satisfied. What the country demands is an end of the system at which the prohibitions of the law are aimed.

Imports and Exports.

With one sweep the war, by paralyzing European industries, has sent American imports down to the minimum and exports up beyond all record. The highest tariff wall any American congress ever erected could not compare in the restriction of foreign imports with the barrier automatically erected by the hostilities abroad.

Although this has been apparent all along, more definite appreciation of the facts may be had from a perusal of the latest government report of our foreign commerce. For example, we shipped to Europe in the month of September, 1914, nearly \$69,000,000 worth of foodstuffs alone, as compared with less than \$39,000,000 in September, 1913. We shipped eleven times as much fresh beef this September than a year ago, eight times as much canned beef and more than thirteen times as much refined sugar.

The immediate effect of all this to us is the return of much of the gold that we sent to Europe in the early stages of the war, gold which facilitates the payment of our foreign obligations and checks impairment of our gold supply. But this vast increase is not all gain. Much of it is simply losses recovered. Like every other nation, neutral or not, we have suffered and will continue to suffer, heavy losses from this war, so that these return tides of gold in exchange for our provisions are far from being entirely new gain.

But what is the outstanding lesson of all these great figures, if not this, that Europe, as well as the United States, should rejoice that we are holding aloof from the war. If we became involved, what other country could do what is left for us toward feeding and clothing the hungry and naked? In this fact alone are the jingoes discredited and the pessimists confounded.

Those high salaried singers who were compelled, because of the war, to ride in box cars will now be much more sympathetic for the poor music lover forced to stand up through the whole performance in the suffocating atmosphere at the back of the top gallery.

That comic opera, "King for a Day," will have to be revised to fit Mexican developments under the title "President for Twenty Days."

South African Rebellion

Union and Rebel Leaders. The strange bedfellows brought into view by the old world war are more numerous but no more startling than the divisions produced among people hitherto on friendly terms. The most conspicuous instance of divided households is seen in South Africa, where two noted leaders of the Boers in the war against the English invaders of 1909-1909 are now leading armed forces against each other. General Louis Botha, president of the Union of South Africa, has taken the field against General Christian De Wet, leader of the latest and most dangerous revolt against British power. The rebellion started by Colonel Maritz appears to have been summarily crushed and the remnants of the rebels driven back into German territory. The strength of the rebellion headed by General De Wet is unknown, but it may be assumed that he has a following of sufficient strength to warrant the step he has taken. In the Boer war of fourteen years ago, when both fought side by side to maintain the independence of the Boer republic, General Botha was distinction as commander and fighter, and General De Wet's energy and resourcefulness as a cavalry commander caused admirers to hail him as "the Sheridan of the Veldt."

The noted Irish leader, Michael Davitt, who resigned from the British Parliament as a protest against the Boer war, went to South Africa as a respondent and accompanied several divisions of the Boer army throughout the campaign. In his book, "The Boer Fight for Freedom," Mr. Davitt gives the following personal sketches of the two Boer leaders, comrades in 1909, enemies today.

General Louis Botha.

"Louis Botha comes of a fighting stock. His paternal grandfather was a captain in the French navy, though of German origin. He emigrated to South Africa and settled down to a farming life, married a Dutch lady, and became one of the Boers in their aspirations for a national existence in the land of their adoption, and in their distrust of English rule and rulers. "Louis Botha was born at Vrede, in the Orange Free State. His father had fought in all the native wars waged by and against the Dutch settlers, and bequeathed a patriotic regard to his five sons, who have all held commands in the present war. Louis is the second son, and is 36 years old (1900). The head of the family was the late General Philip Botha, one of the most gallant and courteous men it has ever been my good fortune to meet and the honor to know. In physical appearance Louis Botha is a faultless specimen of robust manhood, standing near six feet high, and built accordingly. The handsome face is of German mold, with bluish eyes, strong nose, and intellectual expression. He wears a slight brownish mustache and beard. The figure is erect, striking and noble, the pose of the head indicating great power and capacity. The dominant feature of the face is that of combined manliness and kindness, with a suggestive reserve of immense strength; he is the kind of man who would prefer the ordinary pursuits of peaceful life to the tumult and passions of warfare, but who would shrink from no danger nor sacrifice to uphold a cause which would command his assenting loyalty.

"General Botha has had a very little military experience, and no military study. He is one of nature's ready-made generals, cut and fashioned on lines of natural genius. He fought under General Lukins Meyer when the latter went to the assistance of Dinizulu, as already related. He also joined his friend in the founding of the "New Republic" in 1884.

"In the same year, Meyer's little Utopia attracted among others a family named Emmett, from Smallwood, in Cape Colony. Mr. John Emmett, with his four sons and two daughters, settled in the Vryheid district, and became neighbors of Louis Botha. Miss Emmett, a handsome and accomplished young lady, soon attracted the ardent attention of young Botha, and some sixteen years ago (1885) they became man and wife. There are four children of this happy union, two boys and two girls. Mrs. Botha is of Irish relationship on the father's side, and is proud of claiming a blood relationship with Robert Emmet.

General Christian De Wet.

"Christian De Wet is much more of a typical Boer than Louis Botha, in both looks and manner. He possesses none of the distinguished soldierly appearance of the Transvaal general, and speaks no tongue but his native taal. He is some 60 years old (1900), squarely built, standing about five feet nine in height, and wearing much less of a dour, hard and mustache than most of his alleged pictures adorn his wall. The face is not one that would arrest attention in virtue of any striking feature of expression, though the keen, searching gray eyes and massive jaws speak of a character for dogged persistency and alertness of action which indicate their relationship to a strong personality.

"De Wet is of unimpaired Dutch extraction, and was born in that southeastern district of the Free State in which he has gained so many of his signal successes above the Orange. He belongs to the Boer farming class, and possesses all of the best qualities, not the least of which is a thorough detestation of the incurable hypocrisy of the English as rulers, and as the boasted guardians of liberty."

Fossilizing the Innocent.

Much criticism has been directed at the German army for the rule rigorously enforced in the present war of destroying towns whose inhabitants are guilty of "sniping" German soldiers. By this rule the innocent invariably suffer more than the guilty. The rule is not a new one in war reprisals. In the book "The Boer War," Mr. Emmett prints an order by General Roberts, commanding the British forces in South Africa, penalizing attacks on the railroads or rail-road trains by the destruction of the farmhouse nearest the point of attack and the country stripped of stock for a radius of ten miles. "The spirit and letter of the code of civilized warfare were specifically and audaciously violated by such orders, and the law of savage, vindictive vandalism substituted," comments the author.

People and Events

Ammunition factory managers may be excited, but they are not worried about scarcity of business.

As a mark of courtesy, if not respect, for the political deceased, marching bands should cut out dirges for thirty days.

As a tribute to the "iron head of war," the growing popularity of iron wedding rings abroad may be set down as a genuine ringer.

Some men distinguished in executive capacity occasionally make investments in fine gold bricks. In the estate of the late Darius Miller of Chicago, president of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad, there is \$25,000 in stocks listed as "desperate," but there is \$97,000 in securities reported good.

Much suppressed indignation expressed in muttering and grumbling among the unconfined residents of Oostburg, the town nestling in the shadow of New York's noted penitentiary. It seems the authorities entertain the notion that distinguished persons committed to the pen must be kept inside the walls, while the humane prison chiefs feel that occasional visits outside, where special attention and delicacies may be had, promotes the health of the prisoners. A Brooklyn book wrecker, sent over the road, was used as a chauffeur by the prison keeper, which humane discretion caused the keeper to lose his job. Oostburg residents resent such treacherous acts as "an injury to business."

She was the first heroine of his dreams turned into a short story, and when she came along in the flesh he was charmed beyond the power of spoken words to express. So he wrote letters to his heroine—letters that were not received. The result was that when another heroine came into view the scene changed, and the palpitation shifted. The letters remained, and their owner, Miss Beatrice King, intends using them in a Chicago court in support of a \$10,000 breach of promise suit against Edward A. Barrymore, western representative of the New York Telegraph. If Barrymore sticks up to the chivalry of his profession, he will win a check for the amount, so that Miss King "may live happily ever after."



The Shoeing Ballot.

HOOPER, Neb., Nov. 2.—To the Editor of The Bee: About the time you were in this communication the voters of Omaha will be dragging long strips of paper into election booths for the purpose of recording their preferences for candidates whose names appear thereon. Many of the voters will be frightened at the task before them and dispose of it in the shortest and quickest way possible, regardless of consequences. They will make a mark in the circle opposite the party name of the party with which they affiliate.

Now, the point I wish to make is this: The law does not say the ballot shall be a long strip of paper, but it does say the "arrangement of the various groups" shall be uniform and conform as near as possible with the schedule given in the statutes. If a farmer were to build a barn with all the stalls arranged or constructed in a certain "form," he would not start on one end of his farm and build it in a single file to the other end just because the stalls must all be the same in form. No, he would build barns of a convenient length and then arrange them side by side. That is what a man of common sense would do, and when those charged with the preparation of our ballots will use a like common sense, our ballots will be better. They will have regard for the convenience of the voter. Besides the convenience there would be a tremendous saving in the printing of the ballots, as the entire ballot could be printed at one run, regardless of size. Nor would it be necessary to paste the several parts together. The printer knows how to separate the lines so as to make it readily understood by the voter.

You advocate a short ballot. There is no doubt about the desirability of a shorter ballot, but I am not prepared to defend the desirability of the results of such a ballot. I have not given the matter enough thought to discuss it intelligently. M. T. ZELLERS, M. D.

Man a Warful Animal.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Nov. 1.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have read many disquisitions on the European war by many talented thinkers, but after all, I have my own way of thinking on such subjects.

I regard man, in the first instance, as essentially a warful animal and that has through all the past, been his history. He is the most brutal, violent and ferocious of all animal kind. He everywhere is possessed of the two most damning of all the passions, jealousy and envy, the parents of hate and malice. Great civilization and its attendant, commerce, only inflames and excites to activity these vile passions and war is the consequence, and this is the penalty we must pay for these altarpieces.

Europe is socialistic or idealistic and this is, and always has in all the past, borne the same fruit. When the world recovers from these paroxysms of idealistic government and these fools get back on earth, we will again have peace for a time at least, until this dream of government and socialistic conditions is put to sleep by the order of gun powder.

Pardon my effort at the history of the animal man, who violates every moral, natural and physical and nearly every civil law. Just stop and study him a little, if you will.

Note—After all, may it not be true: That war is the statesman's game; the priest's delight; the lawyer's jest, and the hired assassin's trade? A. P. CULLEY.

An Explanation.

OMAHA, Nov. 2.—To the Editor of The Bee: In the letter box of your issue of October 31, Mr. J. H. Norris, commenting on the school board candidates and the citizens' committee, asks: "Why were only a few self-appointed citizens allowed to constitute this committee and all others excluded? Is this answered by a recent announcement that this same committee is already preparing to wage a campaign in the spring for city officials?"

Mr. Norris' second question evidently refers to a resolution, passed by the United Improvement club, which has no connection whatever with the present citizens' committee of school board candidates. The United Improvement club, while endorsing the work of the citizens' committee, realized that the committee was not a representative body in that its selection was not in such a manner as to give representation to the various classes of voters, nor has its membership been made public.

Practically the same objections were true of the citizens' committee which placed candidates before the people at the city election three years ago.

The success of our city depends almost entirely on the united efforts of the various interests of the city, especially those of a civic, commercial and industrial nature, and a true citizens' committee must be made up of representatives of all, not out of those interested.

It is time to take another step forward in the work of "picking men for offices instead of letting men pick offices," and if the various organized bodies of the city unite in this movement, selecting broad-minded, unbiased, representatives, we should have a citizens' ticket at the coming city election in which the united interests of the city will be represented by men competent to handle our municipal affairs in an upright and businesslike manner. E. W. SINNET, United Improvement Club Representative.

As to Calling Names.

OMAHA, Nov. 2.—To the Editor of The Bee: One can't help thinking, as one reads the various accords now appearing, that these anti-ladies are their own best argument against the suffrage.

Take, for instance, that Omaha lady who doesn't consider herself a human being and "vigorously declines" to be considered as such! Like Dickens' "Pleasant Riderhood," she "doesn't wish to so regard herself, nor yet to be so regarded." Now, I never thought of woman as belonging to the purely animal branch of creation, and certainly not as an example of insect life, nor yet (generally) of vegetable life. If she is not a human being, what in the name of biology is she? Really, there are times when I think that the home is the only place for some women—but not specifying the kind of home.

And take the lady from elsewhere, who doubtless feeling that the hour is about to strike, falls back in desperation on the infantile tactics of calling names—figuratively making faces—at some of the most respected and brilliant men in the community because they are of another camp. Worse than that, she circulates tales about one of them that no rational, well-informed person could possibly hear but to laugh at. Anti-ladies, and gentlemen of commerce lurking behind the

scenes, you have certainly good cause to regret your choice of a speller! If all women were of this caliber, oh, most surely their place would be in the home—and then, heaven save the home!

SAID IN FUN.

Sunday School Teacher—William, what must we do before we can expect forgiveness of sins? William—Sin—Judge.

"This is a dignified way to put it." "How's that?" "The general says he didn't retreat. When the firing got too hot he withdrew."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Do you know anything about the language of flowers?" "Only this much: A box of roses talks a heap louder to a girl than a bunch of carnations."—Baltimore American.

"Ah, my poor man," said the benevolent old lady, "suppose you are often pinched by want and hunger, are you not?" "Yes, and cold."—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Agent—Have you become converted to life insurance yet? Prospective Risk—No, but I've got four companies bidding for me.—Philadelphia Ledger.

"I suppose you help your husband a great deal in his measuring work?" "Yes," replied the editor's wife. "I edit all his inside matter."—Judge.

"I thought you said Jack fell in love with Alice at first sight." "And so he did; but you see he took a second look."—Boston Transcript.

"You seem gloomy," said the steady-eyed constituent. "I am gloomy," said Senator Sorghum. "The old band wagon isn't what it used to be, is it?" "Oh, its about the same. But it seems

to me that every time it comes around my way it strikes up a funeral march."—Washington Star.

Stude (on geology expedition)—Say, professor, I can't tell one of these rocks from another.

Prof. Why that's very queer! You must be stone blind.—Cornell Widow.

"They say they've got a cannon now that will shoot twenty-five miles." "Incredible! Why, it will take only four of them to shoot a hundred!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Messieurs," announced Fate, "the Man on Horseback!" "Nothing doing," responded France, "we're expecting the man in a Zeppelin."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

THE KICKER.

Washington Star.

The kicker shows an energy that people must admire.

Although his purpose is to thwart some fellow-man's desire.

Each kick he makes, though it may hurt, if it be straight and strong.

Will simply give an impetus to push some one along.

Don't blame his trick. Let him kick.

A man is kicked from paths obscure and put upon display.

The kicker all unconsciously has helped him on his way.

So, don't be apprehensive when his ire is fiercely loosed;

The chances are each kick he lands will prove to be a boost.

Through thin and thick Let him kick.

If you should undertake to be a cruel kickbacker.

Do not wear apron, because you might sit down on them yourself.

Don't lose your temper and attempt a deadly blow or thrust.

Remember, even kicking has its limitations, just

Don't leave a brick. Fimply kick.

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Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha. COMPILED FROM BEE FILES. The election brought out the largest vote ever polled in Omaha. Owing to the numerous tickets, much scratching was done, and the work of clerks and judges increased. No results were obtainable at midnight. Weather Man Alexander Pollock has compiled his figures for October. The highest temperature was 32 and the lowest 28, and there were frosts on three different days, the 25, 28 and 31st. A series of Baptist state anniversaries was begun with a meeting of a ministerial conference. The officers are: President, Rev. R. B. Bedell; vice president, Rev. O. A. Holmes; secretary, Rev. J. W. Webb. The horse cars on St. Mary's avenue line now run every ten minutes. Business at the clearing house today amounted to \$23,367. Mr. and Mrs. James F. Cameron thank their friends who contributed aid and sympathy in their bereavement by the death of a daughter. Miss Nina, Tenth and Hickory, is ready to teach pupils in shorthand by the Pitman system. A first-class cook and laundress can secure employment at the residence of B. B. Wood, 213 North Twenty-second street.